



## Right of passage

Craitor giving second reading of bill next week

# The Fort Erie Times

www.forterietimes.com

Saturday, April 30, 2011

## A Royal Wedding celebration



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

On Friday morning, St. Paul's Anglican Church gathered for the Royal Wedding. After watching TV coverage that began at 4 a.m. on some stations, members like Barb Steele, front left, Laurie McDowell, Dawn Bick, back left, and Rolene Lockwood enjoyed a service at the local church.

## Debate over defense

Councillors want to freeze spending for Town's legal defense in lawsuit

Kris Dubé  
The Times

About two months ago, the majority of council fought for a second legal opinion on the Bay Beach issue and didn't take the advice of the Town of Fort Erie's solicitor Heather Salter on possible ramifications of breaking the private-public partnership with the Burlington-based Molinaro Group.

On Tuesday night, a notice of motion was brought forward by Ward 6 Coun. Paul Collard to suggest that the Town does not seek external legal representation when defending a statement of claim against the Town, filed through the Ontario Superior Court of Justice... and to only have Salter on the case.

There are seven plaintiffs, seeking a ruling on legal issues surrounding the purchase and sale agreement between the Town and the developer, who have entered into an agreement to build a 12-storey condo building on the south side of Erie Road in Crystal Beach.

See Page 4



A new home for St. Luke's Church rebuild nearly complete



• All is well in Ridgeway

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# Kim Craitor MPP

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St. John Ambulance Babysitting Course for \$25.  
Saturday, May 7, 9:15 - 4, Centennial.  
Young people ages 11 - 14 can earn this valuable certificate. Pre-registration is required; fee due on day of course.  
Please call to register.

Put on Your Prom Face!  
Wednesday, May 11, 4 p.m., Crystal Ridge.  
Suzanne of Chakra Spa will meet with girls ages 12 - 16 for a skin care workshop, including tips on glamping up for prom! \$5. Please call to register.  
Never Say Never  
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## A 'bustling' town



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Siblings Paige, 3, and Isaac Zimmerman, 5, are excited for the eighth annual Family Literacy Event, taking place next Saturday at the Leisureplex, Town Hall and YMCA. This year's theme is a busy, bustling town, with the literature of author Richard Scarry being featured. The event starts at 10 a.m. and there will be live music, firetrucks and much more.

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# Town already moving ahead with retaining external counsel

## From Page 1

"I hope it's the will of this council, that we expend no further funds," said Collard. "I think we should be looking at our solicitor as the person who will defend us in court," added the Stevensville councillor.

Ward 5 Coun. Don Lubberts also sided with Collard, asking if the rules of procedure could be waived in order to discuss the motion more thoroughly in closed session, despite an explanation from mayor Doug Martin that a notice of motion requires a two-week period, when the motion is brought back to the table.

Town clerk Carolyn Kett concurred.

"Council should not be going into closed session without proper notice to the public, unless it's extraordinarily urgent to do so," said Kett.

"It doesn't appear that

urgency exists with this motion."

Lubberts wasn't satisfied with this information and continued to attempt finding a loophole in the process, saying council should have been made aware of the Town's plans to retain additional legal expertise when defending the lawsuit, brought forward by the Fort Erie Waterfront Preservation Association (FEWPA).

"In the meantime, there could be a motion brought forward that would direct our Town staff not to hire outside legal counsel until we've gone into closed session and discussed it," said Lubberts.

As chair of that portion of the meeting, mayor Martin repeatedly told Lubberts his suggestion would not be discussed any further and that it isn't necessary because of its similarity to the one brought forward by Collard.

"It has the same substance

as the original motion and the answer is no," said a visibly irritated Martin.

Lubberts then directed a question to Salter, asking if the Town has already started making lawyer for retaining the Town's team.

"Absolutely," she quickly responded.

"I've delegated authority to retain and instruct external legal counsel to defend claims on behalf of the Town of Fort Erie," added Salter.

"What you're saying is we can hire outside legal counsel without council's recommendation?" asked Lubberts.

Salter then directed Lubberts to the Town of Fort Erie's website, and told him to have a gander at by-law 167-09, where it is written that the solicitor is permitted to retain legal counsel.

With the lawsuit filed last week, the Town has 20 days to respond and prepare the necessary documenta-



**This is not about cost savings, this is about weakening a defense."**

— Ward 1 Coun. Stephen Passero

tion.

Ward 4 Coun. John Hill says this timeframe should be considered.

"In my view, the notice of motion councillor Collard is bringing forward, would be of no use. We would have already made our statement, we would have already hired outside legal staff," he said, referring to the two weeks that are required before the motion is brought back to the table.

"This is an emergency decision because of that

timeline."

Salter then provided insight, saying that the wheels are already in motion when it comes to seeking additional legal representation.

"We have already retained external legal counsel and we are in the process of beginning preparation to file a statement of defense," said Salter.

"You don't really have any other practical alternatives than preparing a defense, that's how the system works."

Ward 2 Coun. Rick Shular chimed in and was also highly critical of the councillors who are hoping the Town does not bring any other legal representation to the table, other than Salter.

"This is absolutely ludicrous. You've lost all credibility in my mind," said Shular, who finds it contradictory that council members believed nothing to do with Salter's advice earlier in

this issue, but now feel the entire weight of the upcoming legal process should only be on her shoulders.

Ward 1 Coun. Stephen Passero agreed with Shular and is concerned that personal opinions continue to get in the way of moving forward.

"This is not about cost savings, this is about trying to weaken a defense," said Passero.

"Six to eight weeks ago, certain members around the table had no confidence whatsoever in Ms. Salter."

Passero then pulled out a question that didn't receive an answer at the meeting.

He asked if any members of council have met with John Keenan, the lawyer representing the FEWPA in the lawsuit.

"Very rarely do I ever ask a question I don't already know the answer to."

See Page 10

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## Complaint filed over board member removal

Kris Dubé  
The Times

The Ontario ombudsman's office is saying there is nothing wrong with council's recent decision to remove Peter Koutroulakis from the Bridgeburg Business Improvement Area (BBI) board of directors.

An appeal was filed to the provincial watchdog agency by someone who feels there should have been notice that Koutroulakis' removal was being considered at the March 28 council meeting and that it was discussed in closed session.

Municipal governments are permitted to meet behind closed doors when a legal matter, property matter or identifiable individual are the topic of discussion.

The motion to go into closed session on Mar 28 was made by Ward 3 Coun. Bob Steckley, who felt Koutroulakis was involving himself in "conduct unbecoming" of a board member, based on the several posts he has made on the social networking site Facebook about councillors Steckley, Hill, Collard and Lubberts.

Koutroulakis uses the name of the restaurant he

owns, Old Bank Bistro, to identify himself.

Jenny Ryu, early resolution officer with ombudsman's office wrote in her letter to the Town of Fort Erie that there is nothing that contradicts proper municipal procedure by discussing the matter in closed session, followed by a vote on the matter in the open.

See Page 8



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# opinion page

The  
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## our editorial

# Congratulations to St. Luke's Church

This is a joyous time for the congregation at St. Luke's Lutheran Church.

Two years ago, the Times covered the fire at the local place of worship and to say the least...it was a dark period in local history.

We remember being there the night it happened, hearing the cries of members who arrived on scene in the early hours of the morning to see their church being destroyed by flames.

It was terrible.

But now, the story is much different.

A new church is nearly complete and when we visited with members this week, it was a great feeling to hear some of their thoughts on the whirlwind of emotion they have been a part of over the last two years.

Congratulations to the members of St. Luke's for making it through such a tough time. The new church is beautiful and you deserve every little bit of it.

-Kris Dubé



# Do You Remember?

The Easter Bunny told us that the ladies' last week's photo were from the All Saints Anglican Church in Ridgeway.

Mrs. Tom Pickard is shown second from the

left.

We will hold this photo out in case anyone can add any more information about these women.

This week's photo shows winners of multi-

ple trophies. If you recognize any of these people,

or even yourself, please call the Museum at (905) 894-5322 or send us an e-mail at [museum@forterie.on.ca](mailto:museum@forterie.on.ca)

# Discussion on council is the epitome of contradiction



**Kris Dubé**  
Editor's Notebook

Everyone is entitled to their own opinion...and there certainly is no shortage of this around town.

But when you are a member of council discussing a decision that has already been made, regardless of your position on an issue, that personal opinion needs to be cast to the back.

The Town of Fort Erie is facing a lawsuit being served by the Fort Erie Waterfront Preservation Association (FEWPA),

after it was decided about two months ago to move ahead with the Crystal Beach Gateway Project, after a second legal opinion confirmed the municipality could be faced with a multi-million dollar lawsuit if the contract with the developer was broken.

Ward 3. Coun. Bob Steckley reversed his vote, keeping the taxpayers in mind. As I said in previous columns, this was likely the toughest decision he has made in his political career. He was able to set aside his strong opposition to the project and move ahead.

But there are still some members of council who can't let it go...and it is beyond frustrating.

Especially after what happened at Tuesday's regular council meeting. The

action and dialogue, especially from Ward 5 Coun. Don Lubberts is the epitome of contradiction.

When the Town's legal staff, director of finance and chief administrative officer warned that ending the private-public partnership with the Molinaro Group could cause a negative impact...council heard this, but wanted a second opinion and spent \$20,000 to get it. When it was given, it mirrored the caution provided by staff.

Oh well, at least they were given an answer, I'm not criticizing the idea of getting another viewpoint, but it does concern me that some of the councillors who did not trust solicitor Heather Salter in February, all of a sudden think she should carry the weight of

the Town's legal defense and hire their external counsel. They trust her 100 per cent now, for some reason.

As councillor Passero put it, it's not about cost-savings, it's about weakening a defense. It's about pre-meeting conversations with a seasonal resident who is leading the charge against frustrating this development.

The decision has been made.

Admit defeat and let your personal opinion wash out into the lake.

If people don't see the irony of certain councillors dismissing the solicitor's claims made two months ago and then saying they want to put all of their trust in her at this point...then they really need to remove the wool from over their

eyes.

As the process has unfolded with this issue between both the former and current councils, I have always seen the opposition's point on this matter and have to respect that.

It was time to put it behind us when the Ontario Municipal Board ruled that the development was responsible...and that was months ago.

Now, it's time to seriously question what the remainder of this council's term will have in store for us because it is getting to the point where I have a blistering headache at the adjournment of mostly every council meeting.

I will say that I do believe all members of council are capable of going good things for Fort

Erie, but this will only happen once they can get off the Bay Beach train.

You were elected to represent the taxpayers of this town as a whole, not people who live here a few months a year and think they are the only ones who have an opinion on this issue.

They are taxpayers and do have the right to explain their stance, but councillors who opposed the project and residents who do not support it are on two total opposite ends of the spectrum at this point.

Represent your employer, not the people who is suing them.

If you would like to leave me feedback, call me at (905) 871-3100 ext. 207 or send me an email at [editorial@forterietimes.com](mailto:editorial@forterietimes.com).

# opinion page

## Looming pension crisis

Dear Editor,

Statistics have shown that Canada's population is aging rapidly, that wages have been stagnant for decades and Canadians are deep in debt. And also the savings rate is too low to provide security for all.

The CPP is capped at a maximum of 25% of the average wage of a person, this is not enough to live on today or in the future with the way everything is escalating. Two out of three workers in Canada don't have a workplace pension, and those that do they are coming under attack, for example U.S. Steel in Hamilton is trying to take away Local 1005's defined benefit pension plan. And other companies declare bankruptcy and the people that have made them millions and possibly billions in profits over the years are sent to the bottom of the creditors list so they are likely to see little or none of their pensions.

If nothing is done soon nearly half of the baby boomers in the middle

income bracket will see a decrease in their purchasing power when they retire. But there is a solution; we need to help Canadians to save for retirement. There are two remedies for this problem. First is a phased-in fully funded doubling of CPP benefits. This would be phased in over the next seven years at the cost of \$3.57/week or a cost of 9 cents/hour for people making \$47,200, and for someone making \$10,000, it would be 76 cent per week or two cents per hour. The Canadian Labour Council, workers, students, retirees, anti-poverty groups, 76% of Canadians and 7 out of ten provincial finance ministers support this plan. Under this plan there will be a predetermined level of retirement income. It will be indexed, and there will be a guaranteed spousal benefits. For a 28 year old and makes 37 years of expanded contributions, would make \$1,772 a month, that same worker would earn \$886 under the plan now.

The second proposal is what is called a Pooled Registered Pension Plan. This plan is like a big RRSP. It is liked by banks, credit unions insurance companies, mutual funds, and Prime Minister Harper. This plan has no guarantees on how much will be there for retirement, it just guarantees that someone else will profit from your savings.

Critics of the CLC's plan say that this is a job killing tax, but it is not it is in fact a savings plan not a tax. They also say that it won't be there for the young, but in reality it is one of the most stable pension plans in the world, it is actuarially sound for at least the next 75 years.

So in closing I would like to urge Canadians to lobby your provincial and federal politicians to support the doubling of the CPP. I feel we should have an opportunity to receive a decent pension, like they do.

Janie O'Hara  
President of CEP  
Local 425-G

## Students and teacher get an A+

Dear Editor,

Our Lady of Victory students put on a fantastic presentation. It was held in St. Michael's Halls for three days.

The narrating, acting,

sound effects, lighting, costumes and music all added to a very moving and dramatic play.

The children (and adults) will never get this effect by the readings, this was something that they will remember and

understand.  
Congratulations to the students and the teacher you got an A+.

Margie Graham  
Fort Erie

## The TIMES Asks

Why did you want to watch the Royal Wedding on Friday morning?



Bev Miller

"Because we care about the Royal family."



Wendy Gibson

"It's a part of history and is a great way to get a bunch of friends together."



Dani Andrews

"I watched during a local gathering that honoured a friend of mine."



Carolyn Hall

"William and Kate bring new hope to the Monarchy because of their youth and principles of life."

## What do you think?

E-mail: [editorial@forterietimes.com](mailto:editorial@forterietimes.com) or call 905-871-3100, ext. 207

## Take The Times



In March, Lucinda Barrett took the Times with her on her trip to Havana, Cuba. Thanks for taking us along.

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Please note that competition closes **May 27, 2011**.

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL/ QUOTATION TENDERS

### (1) TENDER FOR ASPHALT PATCHING – TOWN WIDE FOR 2011 SEASON CONTRACT NO. ISO-05-2011

Sealed tenders clearly marked as to content will be received by Carolyn J. Kett, Town Clerk, Municipal Centre, Fort Erie, Ontario until 2:00 p.m. LOCAL TIME on:

**TUESDAY, MAY 10TH, 2011**

Commencing immediately afterwards on the above date, tenders will be opened publicly at the Fort Erie Town Hall Meeting Room No. 2.

The work includes the complete study and application of HL3 F and HL8 HS, base repairs and asphalt milling, sidewalk and curb repair, etc., on designated roadways, Town parks, parking lots and other Town properties or agencies within the limits of the Town of Fort Erie.

**Effective February 1, 2011**, all Town of Fort Erie's formal competitive bid opportunities, issued by the Purchasing Services Division will be posted on Bidding.com and organized by commodity. This service will provide businesses with a "one stop shop" for bid opportunities available from the Town of Fort Erie, as well as other organizations using [www.bidding.com/forterie](http://www.bidding.com/forterie). This service could open new markets for the goods or services you offer.

If a hard copy is required, tender documents may be picked up at the Town Hall, Engineering Division, 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, ON L2A 2S6, commencing Monday, May 2, 2011 on payment of twenty-eight dollars and twenty-five cents (\$28.25) non-refundable cash or cheque payable to the Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie.

As of Monday, May 2, 2011, Tender Documents may be viewed at the Town of Fort Erie Infrastructure Services Department, Engineering Division and at the Niagara Construction Association, 34 Scott Street, St. Catharines, Ontario.

The Corporation reserves the right to reject any and all tenders and the lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

**INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES**

## BBIA chair requests re-instatement of Koutroulakis

From Page 5

"Based on our review, it appears that notice of the additional item of closed session discussion was provided in accordance with the (Municipal Act) and the Town's Procedure By-Law," she wrote.

"There is also no indication that the decision to remove a particular board member was made by council in closed session."

In a letter addressed to all members of council, BBIA chair Dave Dimberlo says the board was "disturbed and shocked" by Koutroulakis' removal from his volunteer position.

"Mr. Koutroulakis was a highly valued member of our board. His multi-year level of contribution, his insight, his sense of fairness, his genuine concern for our membership, were second to none," wrote Dimberlo.

He also feels the local restaurateur has every right to speak what is on his mind.

"Our level of disturbance at his loss is only heightened by our concern that his right to freedom of expression under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, a protected human right afforded to members and non-members of Council, has been abrogated," he said in the letter, that requested Koutroulakis' re-instatement.

No motion was put on the table at the meeting to take that action.

The four councillors who voted him off, Bob Steckley, Paul Collard, John Hill and Don Lubberts would've had to put a motion on the table to lift the ban, but none of them did at the meeting.

Koutroulakis will still remain a member of the BBIA, but will not be given his former position as a director on the board.

"Until they figure out how to remove me as a member of the BBIA, I will continue pursuing positive initiatives for our district and town as a whole," he said.

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Krista Carigan  
Fort Erie's 2010  
Leading Jockey

# Opening up access to shoreline

Kris Dubé  
The Times

The public should be able to exercise its right to enjoy the province's many expansive shorelines, without being told by people living nearby that they are trespassing on their property.

This is the position of Niagara Falls member of provincial parliament Kim Craltor, who next week will be giving the second reading of his private member's bill, focusing on the right of passage for residents or visitors of waterfront communities.

Fort Erie is a prime example of one of the municipalities affected by the misconception that waterfront property owners actually own the entire beach land, up until the water's edge of Lake Erie.

He met with the Times and representatives from the Ontario Shorewalk Association at Crescent Beach, a location notorious for being sectioned off with fencing during the summer months.

"People claim they own right into the water," said Craltor.

He said his bill has been getting a lot of attention all over Ontario, especially in beachfront communities with residents who have similar complaints to those of Fort Erie, who feel property they are entitled to enjoy is being taken away by individuals who claim it as their own and aren't willing to share with everyone else. Bringing it forward for a second reading, will only get it more attention.

"It is to get it out more into the public domain," said Craltor.



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Ontario Shorewalk Association president Betty Van Osch, left, founder and past-president Garry Skerrett and Niagara Falls MPP Kim Craltor at Crescent Beach this week.

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## Ask a Bathroom Designer

Q: What should I consider when purchasing a new toilet?

A: The days of the large 3 gallon flush wasting toilets have long since passed. When purchasing a new toilet there are some useful things to look for that balance water conservation and cleaning effectiveness. When it is a store you will see both low flush (6 liter) and dual flush (30 liter) toilets on display. Ask a sales person to help you make an informed and review these items for each model. They also a minimum 2" glazed trapway will help to remove waste with less clogging. Flush valve sizes—larger flush valve size delivers a larger volume of water quicker for a more powerful flush. Water Siphonless—larger water spot when the bowl is full, and evenly spaced dual holes help to keep the bowl clean after each flush. Pressure Assist Models—air pressure built inside the tank creates a powerful flush. Dual Flush Models—using 3 liters for liquid waste and 6 liters for solid can help save water. Map Testing—most toilet models have been tested for the amount of solid waste they can remove per flush. Complete lines are online.



Kurt Goetz  
Bathroom Designer



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## Ask a Computer Expert

Q: What is 'scam-ware'? by Ed Smith

A: "Scam-ware" is a general term for software that attempts to scare users into purchasing products they don't need. Annoying popups advising to register or purchase products you've never heard of should put up a red flag. They just want your credit card! We suggest calling a professional computer service centre for advice.



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## Ask a Funeral Director

Q: I understand the government gives me \$2500 towards the funeral, can you explain this?

A: For eligible individuals Canada Pension Plan (CPP) will provide a maximum of \$2500, payable as a Jéudéché benefit. In most cases, only individuals who have made contributions to CPP during their employment years and their survivors are eligible for benefits. Contact us, or <http://www.serviceworkers.gc.ca/en/gbp/cppt/cppe.html> for more information.



Darren Flagg  
Funeral Director



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## Ask a Pharmacist

Q: What exactly do "antibiotics" do?

A: Antibiotics are one of the greatest breakthroughs in medicine. They have saved more lives than any other treatment or medication in history. When used properly, antibiotics can help individuals, who previously to their discovery, would never have recovered. However, antibiotics are sometimes used inappropriately and this leads to problems, the first being resistance. The bacteria we are trying to eliminate get "tired" and they develop defenses against the antibiotics. If used properly, the antibiotics eliminate all of the bacteria. Sometimes, all of the bacteria is not eliminated and new have been caused to the antibiotic and develop a defense mechanism. This is important to follow the directions closely and take them as directed. As well, there may be some side effects such as diarrhea and rash. They can also affect the blood sugar in diabetics and can cause problems for elderly patients if they aren't diagnosed properly for aging kidneys. It is important to follow the directions closely and take them as directed.

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## Ask a Dentist

Q: What is the relationship between antibiotic prophylaxis and total joint replacement?

A: While the guidelines have changed regarding many previous reasons for medication, an expert panel concluded that "prophylactic therapy is still advised in patients at high risk of nosocomial (nosocomial joint replacement)". The panel consisted of dentists, orthopedic surgeons and infectious disease specialists who reviewed the scientific evidence of need for this group. Bacteremia can be caused from dental or medical surgery and infections of the heart, liver, cavity, respiratory system or urinary tract. Since the 1980's joint infections have been increased due to prophylactic penicillin. The panel recommended that patients planning joint replacements be seen by their dentist to rule out any potential dental and receive good oral health before surgery. Post-operatively, some replacement patients should be told to maintain good oral health to reduce the chance of infection. In general patients at high risk for joint infections within the first 2 years of joint replacement. Lower risk than previous joint infections, immunocompromised and immunosuppressed patients, patients with oral infections and patients with weak oral hygiene. The panel also ruled that antibiotic should be based on the providers best judgement and appropriate prevention therapy.

(Source: The oral Care Report, 2008 Vol. 18 #1)

**Terry McKay**  
McKay Dentistry Professional Corporation  
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# Lawsuit focuses on 'crux of issue' says opponent

From Page 4

Ward 3 Coun. Bob Steckley, who has opposed the development since its introduction last term finds it contradictory that councillors in favour of the project criticized himself and other members for seeking a third-party legal opinion, when now, the tables have turned.

"Now that the shoe's on the other foot, we can continually spend," said Steckley. Mayor Doug Martin said he isn't surprised about the lawsuit, but is growing tired of the current council's inability, in his opinion, to forget about the past and move on to other issues instead of "frustrating" this development.

"We haven't been able to move one step forward since this council started," said Martin.

The plaintiffs are also ask-

ing the court to grant a permanent injunction to prevent the town from conveying the deed to The Molnar Group. At the time of judgment the deed has already been transferred, the plaintiffs are asking the court to require The Molnar Group to convey all rights, title and interest in the property back to the Town of Fort Erie.

"This lawsuit focuses on the crux of the issue... what we always knew in our hearts," said Marcia Carlyn, a seasonal resident in Crystal Beach and an avid opponent of the Bay Beach development plan.

"It's simply not right for the town to be giving away Crystal Beach's most valuable asset to a private developer. This prime waterfront property belongs to the public."

—with files from QMI Agency

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# Bill is 'all about having the freedom' to walk along Great Lakes

## From Page 9

"You can't block off the lakes, that's the bottom line."

He also said he has received support from some of his colleagues, but next week will have a much better impression of what the overall perception of the bill is, especially from some of his non-Liberal colleagues.

"That's when I'll really get a clear feeling about the kind of support we have from all the parties."

Garry Skerrett is the founder of the Ontario Shorewalk Association, a group formed in Greater Fort Erie back in 2005 but with members all over the province.

He said the group established itself after hearing of

a U.S. Supreme Court ruling in Michigan, that said no beachfront property owner could section of land with fencing or other obstacles.

"It was really a turning point," he said.

From there, the group met with Craitor and the early stages of proposing the right of passage bill at Queen's Park were underway.

"He's fought with us ever since," said Skerrett of Craitor's involvement on the issue.

Current president Betty Van Osch said this bill is long overdue, so people can start enjoying the beautiful scenery available to them in their towns and cities.

"It's all about having the freedom to walk along the Great Lakes," she said.



## Ask a Real Estate Agent

**Q:** I found a house that I really like. I want to put an offer on it, BUT if I don't get that house, I'm not moving. How do I go about it??

**A:** Get an ACCEPTED OFFER on the house you want. Then when an offer comes in on YOUR house, ask your realtor to put a "Vendor Relocation" clause in order to make sure you get the house you really want! However, when you have conditions with both the buyer and the seller, it makes the deal very complex.



Marg Ott  
Broker



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## Ask a Hair Stylist

**Q:** Do many men get their hair professionally colored?

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In addition to printed advertisements, there are several other ways to effectively promote your business. Local Internet directories, social media, personal selling, and public relations are a great venue to advance your business at little or no cost. Introducing a referral incentive program into your business and offering promotional specials are also a good way to attract and keep customers.

Helen McCreadie



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## Ask an Automotive Service Technician

**Q:** With the high price of gas these days, how can I improve my gas mileage?

**A:** The secret to better fuel economy: change the oil filter! With gas prices climbing each week, giving your vehicle better maintenance has become a priority. Many motorists have the impression that new vehicles are maintenance free. That might be true for some components, but there are others that need regular care. The most important item to change is the oil filter. This is usually a very inexpensive fix and will help your vehicle "breathe" much easier, especially with the hot summer roads that approaching. If your vehicle is breathing easier, this means less fuel it will use! Ask your mechanic or technician for assistance with this and any other automotive concerns you may have.



Scott Eggleston  
Service Manager



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## Ask The Expert

**Q:** I inadvertently forgot to include information on my 2010 tax return that was recently filed. What can I do?

**A:** UPON TO WORK! This happens all the time. Canada Revenue Agency has a form called a T1 Adjustment just for this purpose. If you forgot or have received additional information, whether income or expenses related, pertaining to a previously filed tax return it can be easily corrected with the T1 Adjustment. This can apply to almost anything such as: donation receipts, child tax credits, public transfer credits, income information plus T4s and TFS, additional income or expenses etc. Canada Revenue Agency may charge interest and penalties for income amounts not included on the original return.

The forms are available on line at [www.cra.gc.ca](http://www.cra.gc.ca) and is called T1 ADJ. It is best to have an experienced tax provider prepare this form.



Kenneth D. Longhytha  
CGA, ALA, CFE



[ken@crawfordross.com](http://ken@crawfordross.com)

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## Ask a Restaurateur

**Q:** How does your restaurant from a Business Improvement Association reflect upon your restaurant and others in your district?

**A:** First of all my response from a Town appointed Board of Management, is exactly what I wanted. I realized quickly that my board of Management "members" don't correspond with current Town Councillors and it would have been very difficult for myself to agree with business dealings with representatives and ultimately members of the Town Council. I immediately became a member of the Media and made great use of my many business associates and contacts within the Town Council. I based on several issues, chose to not approve from me a town that was not offered by my many associates. I felt it was my duty to speak out on behalf of every taxpayer in the area and, as a restaurateur, I felt it was my duty to speak out on behalf of every taxpayer in the area. I, in addition to their members with the will of a new and improved attitude on the town council.

From my many years of business experience, I understood the issue, I understood the problems surrounding how many hours and focus on meeting the situation head on.

A successful business person sees reality when it comes to "real business practice" and immediately deals with the issues of the situation. Time is money of the business!

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Kris Dubé  
The Times

That cold, tragic night back in February 2009 will always be a vivid memory of the congregation at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Ridgeway.

Nearing its 100-year anniversary, every station from the Fort Erie Fire Department and crews from Port Colborne battled a roaring blaze at the place of worship, known as the "little blue church" at the time.

The building basically crumbled to the ground and

no cause was able to be determined due to the severity of the damage.

Over two years later, church members are rejoicing and the story is a lot brighter.

On Sunday, the congregation will be celebrating the near completion of its new building, located at the same site as the old church on Prospect Point Road.

"It's a dream, we would get something like this to replace the old church," said Marion Morningstar, who was the choir director and organist over a span of 29

years.

Chair of the church council Maria Featherstone said it is a great feeling, going from such a tragic moment to a joyous one over the course of two years.

"It's been a really spiritual journey, the congregation has really pulled together to make this happen," she said.

Morningstar agreed. "As bad as the fire was, I feel it brought our congregation closer together."

Mike Donn, chair of the construction project and active member explained it's a different layout than the past facility, as better accessibility is better provided with the new building.

"It was easier to build on one level," he also said, referring to how there were two floors in the old church.

The service tomorrow starts at 10 a.m. and all members of the community are welcome to join.

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## Easter colours



Recently, the Times awarded prizes to its Easter colouring contest winners, donated by the Crystal Beach Candy Co., Subs n' Sweets, and the Times. Winners are Brooke Pollard, Garrett Kurgan, Gram Willick, Julia Veltman, Jackson Louws, Tyler Hoage, Tori Colgan, Aaliyah Baxter, Lily Devinney, Delaney Passero, Morgan Everest and Sierra Schertzing.

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## Easter Bunny visits town



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Six-year-old Oliver Sibbald posing with his good pal the Easter Bunny at a meet and greet with the holiday figure, hosted by Rio Vista Golf Course last Saturday and JCI Fort Erie.

check  
this  
out



**Talk about Drugs: What teens and parents need to know**

Wed., May 4, Crystal Ridge Branch  
 Donnie Edwards, from Boggio and Edwards IDA Pharmacy will be speaking to and about teens, teaching about drugs

6:30 p.m., free admission  
**St. John Ambulance**

**Babysitting Course**  
 Young people ages 11 to 14 can earn a valuable certificate, \$25 cost, pre-registration is required

May 7, May 15, 9:15 a.m.  
 Centennial Branch

**Put on Your Prom Face**  
 Suzanne of Chakra Spa will meet with girls 12 to 18 for a skin care workshop, including tips on glamping up for prom

May 11, 4 p.m., Crystal Ridge branch, \$5



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Editor Kris Dubé

905-871-3100 ext. 207 editorial@forterietimes.com

Saturday, April 30, 2011

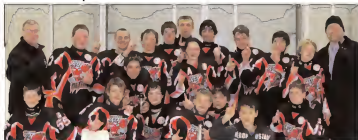
## All-Stars on ice



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Ridgeway-Crystal Beach High School Blue Devil Bryce McAvoy looking for a pass in the neutral zone, during last Friday's District School Board of Niagara all-star hockey game between players in Zones three and four at the Leisureplex.

## District Champs



In March, the minor bantam Jr. Meteors took home the district championship title. In the front row from left to right are Austin Greaves, Tommy Young, Jordan Yandeau, Nolan Vonkalckreuth, Owen Jacobs, Michael Graham and Aaron Screen. In the middle row are Lucas Gardiner and Megan Delay. In the back row are assistant coach Rob Mueller, Hayden Bonneau, Spencer Gales, Dylan Maulucci, Tyler Mueller, Patrick Gurczak, Josh Kuderian, Josh Jackson, Christian Gifford, Jacob Kinsella and head coach Rich Graham. Absent from photo are trainer Darell Young, assistant coach Pat "Meatball" Giampaolo and manager Dora Graham.

## Wall of Fame inductees announced

Some of Fort Erie's finest athletes of the past are once again set to be honoured.

The annual Sports Wall of Fame induction and dinner ceremony is set for June 17, with six names being added to the shrine, that is on display at the Kinsmen Rink inside the Leisureplex.

Joanne Renshaw is being recognized for her accomplishments in competitive softball, representing both Ontario and Canada in different championships through her life, including 18 gold medals with the Sportaculars, a senior women's softball team.

Jean Mills, another member of the Sportaculars, is also being inducted for her career in the sport.

Bill Morris, who passed away in 1992 is another athlete who will be added to the local sports wall of fame. He played on many winning teams in soccer, hockey, baseball and as an individual on the golf course.

George "Dusty" Blair is being added to the wall for his production in hockey. He played two games with the Toronto Maple Leafs in the 1950-51 season and was often characterized as one of the game's best penalty killers. Both George and his brother Chuck played with the Buffalo Bisons of the American Hockey League in the mid-50s. Over his career, he played with 16 teams in 11 different leagues.

Tony Evershed is being

honoured for his time and accomplishments on the links as a professional golfer. He became the assistant professional at the Cherry Hill Club in 1971 and later became head pro. He eventually played in the PGA's Canadian Open in 1977 and 1978.

Norman Donald Graham will be added to the wall for his dedication as a "bulldozer" in amateur sports. He was elected the first president of the Greater Fort Erie Youth Soccer Club in 1980 and coached several other minor teams in town.

The ceremony is June 17, hosted by the Fort Erie Kinsmen Club.

Anyone interested in tickets can call Larry Graber at (905) 871-5838. Tickets are \$50.

## House league champs



The Greater Fort Erie House League PeeWee Blackhawks' were off to Brantford and competed in the All Ontario Championships in April. Congratulations to the Blackhawks who captured the house league title in late March. Team Members are, Alex Hall, Spencer Mackenzie, Gregory Gehard, Bradon Quackenbush, Cole Ramsey, Carter Seguin, Matt Olinenhage, Willie Weaver, Tanner Outhbertson, Tanner Schinkel, Ethan Burrisson and Emile Laffeur. Coaches, Paul Seguin, Chris Ramsey and Kevin Kormos.

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## Deaths

## Deaths

## Deaths

## Card of thanks



**JAMES, Jennifer Lee, 39**, passed away unexpectedly on April 26, 2011 surrounded by her devoted family and friends. Young, beautiful and vivacious, she will be greatly missed by her mother Eugene James, children Kandara and Carter Eaton, their father Mark Eaton, brother Jarrett James (Brenna), niece and nephew Harper and Jack James and boyfriend Charlie. Predeceased by father Walter James of Leamington, they will be enjoying each other's laughter once again. Jen will also be missed by many aunts, uncles, cousins, grandparents and countless friends. The family wishes to extend a heartfelt thanks to the caring and compassionate ICU nursing staff at GNGH. A Celebration of Life Ceremony will be taking place at 1:00 p.m. at the Iolo-Canadian Hall, Fort Erie on April 30, 2011 followed by an Open House until 8:00 p.m. at the same location. In lieu of flowers, donations to Fort Erie Minor Baseball or a child's sports association of your choice would be greatly appreciated. Arrangements entrusted to **NIAGARA FUNERAL ALTERNATIVES**, Ridgeway (905) 894-0120.

*Time takes away the edge of grief,  
But memory turns back every leaf.*

Memoriam Verse #39  
To remember a loved one with this verse  
Call 1-866-541-6757 Today



**KOSIBA, Reverend Zbigniew (Ben)** - Surrounded by the love of his family, Ben passed away at the Douglas Memorial Hospital on Friday, April 22nd, 2011 in his 65th year. Loving husband of Patricia. Cherished father of Cindy (Brian) Persch of Newton Falls, Ohio and Adam (Stacey) Kosiba of Nova Scotia. Proud grandfather of Ewa and Hunter Persch and Owen and Gwyneth Kosiba. Beloved son in law of Raymond and Dorothy Melwich. Sadly missed by his sister Ursula (Andy) Makula and his brother Richard Jakuszyk, his nieces, nephews, extended family and many friends. Predeceased by his father Kazimierz Kosiba, his mother Eugenia Jakuszyk and step father Stanley Jakuszyk. In addition to his passion for the game of golf and being a member of the Golf Nut Society, Ben was an avid fan of NASCAR, the Ohio State Buckeyes, Green Bay Packers and the Toronto Maple Leafs. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES**, 1105 Benner Ave., entrusted with arrangements. The family received friends on Monday, April 25th from 6-9. Funeral Services was held in the Benner Funeral Chapel on Tuesday afternoon at 2 p.m. If so desired, donations to the Canadian Cancer Society would be appreciated by the family.

*The joys that he missed  
on life's highway.  
May he find in God's garden of rest.*

Memoriam Verse #24  
To remember a loved one with this verse  
Call 1-866-541-6757 Today

**MAREE, Donald (Don) Edward** - It is with heavy hearts that the family of Don Maree announces his passing on April 27th, 2011, at the Crescent Park Lodge in Fort Erie, Ontario. Don was born in Detroit, Michigan on December 7, 1930 and moved to Ingersoll, Ontario as a child with his parents and sister. Don worked as a Customs Officer for 38 years, most of which was spent at the Peace Bridge as a Customs Officer; he retired in 1989. One of Don's favourite past times was driving and sight-seeing especially if it was south for a vacation. Beloved father to Dianne (Mike), Kathy (Jim), Shelly, Doug, Paul (Sue), and Darryl. Don will be lovingly remembered by his former wife Lorene, former partner Monica, and his 7 grandchildren, 9 great grandchildren, many nieces and nephews, and extended family and friends. Don is survived, and will be sadly missed, by his sister Eileen and her daughter Becky, of Barrie, Ontario. A private family service will be held to honour his life. In lieu of flowers, donations to a charity of your choice in Don's honour would be greatly appreciated by the family. Arrangements entrusted to **NIAGARA FUNERAL ALTERNATIVES** (905) 894-0120.

**PARK, Olga** - Peacefully and surrounded by family, at Redbacks Retirement Home on April 26, 2011, in her 97th year. Predeceased by 6 sisters and 2 brothers and husband John sons Norman, Roy, Archie and Gordon Michael. Survived by daughter Bernice (Wayne) Roy, daughter-in-law Isabelle, 8 grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren, 1 great-great grandchild. The family would like to thank everyone at Redbacks for providing exceptional care and attention, and thanks to Dr. Henry for his excellent care. At Olga's request cremation has taken place and a private family interment will be held at a later date. Arrangements entrusted to **NIAGARA FUNERAL ALTERNATIVES** 905-894-0120.

**ASHTON**  
The family of Doris Ashton wishes to express their appreciation to so many people. To friends and relatives for their kind words, prayers, cards, flowers, food and donations to the S.P.C.A. Thank you for the great care by the nurses and Dr. Sub at N.F.G.H. and for the compassionate care our mother received at Douglas Memorial Hospital, especially to Dr. Soher, nurse Barb and Dr. Leung. To Ray, Mark Glasdick of St. Paul's, thank you for helping bring happiness and peace to our Mother's last days and for the very nice service. Thank you so much to our cousin Yvonne Hopkins for her beautiful musical tribute. We are also so grateful to the A.C.W. Ladies and St. Nick's-Victoria Ladies for putting on such a beautiful reception. To Darren Flagg and Staff of Benner Funeral Services, thank you for your professional and on-going compassionate assistance.  
**Peace Be With You.**  
The Ashtons and families.

**KEATING**  
On behalf of the family of the late **Fren Keating**, who passed away April 9, 2011, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to everyone who has sent us thoughts, prayers, cards, floral arrangements and charitable donations. Special thanks to the staff at Maple Lodge and the Fort Erie Region. Pat and Mike Keating

**STEVENSON**  
The family of Donny Stevenson wishes to express our sincere appreciation to family, friends and neighbours. Your expressions of sympathy, cards, food, flowers and donations meant so much to us, a sad time. It was wonderful to see so many attend the service in Fortnith. We know that Donny would be smiling because you showed how much you cared. Thank you Rev. Gladding for the words of comfort. To the professional, thoughtful staff of Niagara Funeral Alternatives, thank you for your guidance. Cards, Hoses and Ice Cream together in Heaven.  
Bob, Barb, Pat, Mike, Andrea, Colleen and Cruz

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KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Julia Fabiano, left, Benna Lun, Janet Gigone and Sandy Sackowski, of the Ridgeway Wellness Centre, located on Ridgeway Road.

# Ridgeway a place for wellness

Kris Dubé  
Fort Erie Times

The Ridgeway Wellness Centre is a one stop shop to rejuvenate the mind, body and soul. Located on Ridgeway Road, the local spa is excited about three new additions to its team that will serve clients with naturopathic, chiropractic and social needs.

Sandy Sackowski, a registered social worker who just recently moved to the Ridgeway area to take her position at the local business, said she is eager to start new programs such as workshops that help build the self-esteem of young women, or provide counselling for parents and families.

"Small communities don't have access to these types of services," said Sackowski, who feels a focus on teenagers needs to be undertaken and the lives they lead.

"A lot of parents are saying they need help with kids," said the owner of a masters degree obtained at the University of Toronto and McMaster University.

Benna Lun is a naturopathic doctor who has a bachelor's degree with honours, from the University of Guelph and is a graduate of the Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine.

She said the Wellness Centre is a great environment that should be very welcoming to the community, with a friendly and soothing atmosphere.

She wants to help people "maintain optimal health" by either exposing them to her practice or by assisting with identifying diseases and conditions some individuals might be prone to because of genetics or lifestyle.

"I'm looking forward to meeting people in the community and helping them achieve their health goals," said Lun.

Julia Fabiano is an on-site chiropractor that joined the Ridgeway Wellness Centre earlier this year. She graduated from the New York Chiropractic College and like her colleagues, is excited to play an active role in the local business community.

She also feels new clients will be refreshed by the atmosphere at the spa in Ridgeway, as it doesn't feel like the average doctor's or chiropractor's office.

"It's not very clinical... it's very soothing and relaxing," she said.

"It creates a very positive environment and energy," said Fabiano.

Janet Gigone, owner of the Ridgeway facility is very proud of the team that has been assembled and hopes the community will take advantage of their expertise and friendly approach to business.

"They really are wonderful people," she said

For more information on the Ridgeway Wellness Centre, or to book an appointment, call (905) 894-1551.

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**PS.** The study mentioned above noted that improved hearing ability among young users of bone-anchored hearing instruments was probably due to the instruments' beneficial effects in noisy surroundings.

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## Discount tickets for Kinsmen carnival

On Wednesday, the Kinsmen Carnival kicks off at the Victory Christian Centre on Garrison Road. Tickets for the full event are \$30, but can be purchased in advance for only \$20 at the Petro Canada gas station on Bertie Street, across from the Fort Erie Racetrack.

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## Bricks & Bouquets

If you have a brick or bouquet send it to [editorial@forterietimes.com](mailto:editorial@forterietimes.com) or phone 905-871-3100, ext. 210 and leave a message

**Bouquet**  
To a local gas station-restaurant who was kind enough to deliver food to my home while I was recovering from a recent surgery. This is an example of one family helping another. Thank you.

**Bouquet**  
To everyone who took the time to visit with me and family over the Easter weekend.

**Brick**  
To the wind for blowing my garbage cans pretty much into a different Ward than the one I live in on Thursday.

**Bouquet**  
To everyone who helped their neighbours by collecting garbage containers and recycle bins from all over the street and returned them to their rightful owners after the heavy winds we experienced. This is a true sign of team work.

**Brick**  
To everyone who don't wear their seatbelts when driving. Safety first, folks.

**Bouquet**  
To everyone who

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